

Queen Victoria - the Two shilling Issue.



2/- (plate 1) Blue - introduced 1st July 1867.

Printed by De la Rue & Co in sheets of 240 stamps, consisting of 12 panes arranged in four horizontal rows of three. Each pane comprised five horizontal rows of four stamps. Approaching **5,750,000** stamps printed in the **Blue** colour were made available for use by the general public.

A request was made in July 1879 for the **2½d** stamp to be printed in **Blue**. This was necessary to comply with the Universal Postal Union regulation that mail addressed to Europe should be in light blue. To avoid a possible conflict with the existing 2/- Blue, De la Rue & Co suggested that the 2/- stamp should be printed in **Brown**, the colour of the now obsolete **10d** stamp. The suggestion was accepted, but the 2/- Brown was destined to have a very short life of less than six months.

2/- (plate 1) Brown - introduced 27th February 1880.

The stamp was withdrawn from sale in July 1880. Only **77,620** stamps are thought to have been made available for public use, hence their relatively high catalogue value for used copies.

Some **46** Different Perfin Dies are known on the Queen Victoria 2/-, with a split of **43** DD for the **Blue** colour, and **15** DD for the short-lived **Brown**, of which **12** are known on **both** colours. Around 85% have known or suspected users.

Perfin figures are correct to **1st July 2018**.

Earliest/Latest dates on stamps reported with a Perfin.

2/- Blue	Earliest: 1 st Mar 1872	C5620.01M	Latest: 15 th Nov 1873	T0010.18
2/- Brown	Earliest:		Latest:	

A selection of Perfinned examples with better postmarks!



Note: Charles Jennings listed 17 different dies on the 2 shilling stamp, 14 on the Blue colour and 5 on the Brown.

	Cat. No.	Letters	Die in Use	Blue SG119	Brown SG121	Ident
	?	A&BS	1872-1880	Blue	-	<i>A0860.01 has now been re-appraised, and the 8d plate 1 cannot now be confirmed - A0860.01/01a.</i>
1	B0890.01	B.B ^{TS} ..	1870-1877	Blue	-	Benecke Brothers, Merchants, 62 Bishopsgate St, London EC.
	?	B.S/&C ^o	?	Blue	-	<i>Listed by Charles Jennings. Precise die unknown.</i>
2	B7640.01	B.W.B	1872-1885	Blue	-	B W Blydenstein, Foreign Bankers, 55/56 Threadneedle St, London EC.
3	C0125.01	C.A/C ^o	c1875	Blue	-	<i>User unknown. No postmark evidence.</i>
4	C0960.01M	C&B/SOHO	1869-1886	Blue	-	Crosse & Blackwell Ltd, Preserve Mfrs, Soho Sq, London W1.
5	C0960.04M	C&B/SOHO	1868-1874	Blue	-	Crosse & Blackwell Ltd, Preserve Mfrs, Soho Sq, London W1.
6	C2370.01	C.E.P	1873-1879	Blue	-	Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris, Bankers, 144 Leadenhall St, London EC.
7	C3730.02	C.I.H/&S	1869-1910	Blue	Brown	C J Hambro & Son, Merchants, 70 Old Broad St, London EC.
8	C5620.01M	CORY/C	1869-1895	Blue	-	Wm Cory & Son Ltd, Colliery Proprietors, Bute St, Cardiff.
9	C7760.01	C.T.S/&C ^o	1870-1884	Blue		Charles Tennant Sons & Co Ltd, Soda & Soap Mfrs, 101 Upper Thames St, London EC.
10	D0220.01M	D.B	1873-1890	Blue	-	Deutsche Bank Ltd, 4 George Yard, Lombard St, London EC.
11	D0700.01	D/C&C ^o	1870-1910	Blue	-	Dennistoun, Cross & Co, Merchants, Bartholomew House, London EC.
12	D3330.01	D.M/&S	1873-1915	Blue	Brown	David Midgley & Sons Ltd, Shipping Merchants, Manchester.
13	D4390.07M	D&S	1870-1885	Blue	Brown	William Dawson & Sons Ltd, Stationers & Agents, London EC.
14	E2620.01	E.L/&C ^o	1874-1886	Blue	-	Edward Lazard & Co, Merchants, 20 Kings Arm Yard, London EC.
15	G0240.01	G&/AW	1869-1877	Blue	-	Ø G & A Worms, Bankers, London.
16	G0600.01M	G.B.L/L	1870-1912	Blue	-	German Bank of London Ltd, Bartholomew Lane, London EC.
17	G2340.02M	G.H.P/&C ^o	1870-1890	Blue	-	George H Penney & Co, 23 Lime St, London EC.
18	G3260.01M	GLYN	1868-1886	Blue	Brown	Glyn, Mills & Co, Bankers, London EC.
19	H2010.01	H.D.F	1875-1880	-	Brown	<i>User unknown. London EC postmarks.</i>
20	H6150.02M	H.R/&C ^o	1871-1885	Blue	-	Hayn, Roman & Co, Merchants, London EC, and Liverpool.
21	H6420.01	HSB	1871-1900	Blue	Brown	Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, London EC.
22	H6670.01	H.S.K/&C ^o .	1875-1885	-	Brown	H S King & Co, Bankers, London EC & SW.
23	H7490.01M	HUTH	1869-1885	Blue	-	Frederick Huth & Co, Merchants and Merchant Bankers, London EC.

	Cat. No.	Letters	Die in Use	Blue SG119	Brown SG121	Ident
24	I0130.02M	IBHL	1870-1903	Blue	-	International Bank of London Ltd, 50 Old Broad St, London EC.
25	I0930.01	I.F.O	1873-1879	Blue	-	Ø Imperial Insurance Office, Midlands Branch, Birmingham.
26	I1220.01M	I.H.S./C°	1870-1914	Blue	Brown	J Henry Schroder & Co, London.
27	I2510.01	IT&C°	1872-1877	Blue	-	J C im Thurn & Co, Merchants, 1 East India Ave, London EC.
28	J0553.01	J.B./&B	1872-1883	-	Brown	Ø Jackson, Brierley, and Briggs Manchester.
29	J0630.02	JB&C°	1873-1885	Blue	Brown	<i>User unknown.</i> London postmarks.
30	J6477.02	J/R&C°	1871-1880	Blue	-	<i>User unknown.</i> Bradford and London postmarks.
31	J7800.01	JTM	1872-1885	Blue	-	J T Morton, Preserved Provisions Manufacturers, Leadenhall St, London EC.
32	L1320.01M	L/C&S	1875-1895	Blue	Brown	Louis Cohen & Sons, Merchants, 31 Throgmorton St, London EC.
33	R0330.02	R.B.	1870-1885	Blue	Brown	Ralli Bros, Merchants, 25/27 Finsbury Circus, London EC.
34	R0470.03M	R.B./&C°	1873-1885	Blue	-	<i>User unknown.</i> London EC postmarks.
35	R4315.01	R.R.C/M	1874-1879	Blue	Brown	Robert Rodgers & Co, Liverpool.
36	R4870.02M	R&S/M	1870-1880	Blue	-	Ryland & Sons Ltd, Cotton Spinners and Warehousemen, Manchester.
37	R4890.01M	R&S/M.L	1868-1877	Blue	-	Rylands & Sons Ltd, Cotton Spinners and Warehousemen, Manchester and London.
38	S4790.03A	S&M	1875-1885	Blue	-	<i>User unknown.</i> London postmarks.
39	S4850.01M	S&/M°D	1870-1880	Blue	-	Ø Stewart & McDonald, Warehousemen, Glasgow.
40	S4920.01	SM/&C°	1868-1890	Blue	Brown	Samuel Montagu & Co, Bankers, 60 Old Broad St, London EC.
41	S4930.02	S.M/&C°	1870-1877	Blue	-	Schwann, Modera & Co, Manchester.
42	S5120.02aM	S.M/M	1870-1875	Blue	-	Ø Samuel Moore, Wholesale Stationer, Cannon St, Manchester.
43	S6560.01	S.S./&C°	1873-1885	Blue	Brown	Schuster Son & Co, Merchants, 90 Cannon St, London EC.
44	T0010.18	T	1870-1878	Blue	-	Ø J C im Thurn & Sons, Merchants, 1 East India Ave, London EC.
45	W0140.02	W&A/G	1870-1900	Blue	-	W & A Gilbey, Wine Merchants & Distillers, Oxford St, London W.
46	#0710.01	9/RvG	1872-1888	Blue	-	Robert von Glen & Sons, Merchants, 9 Fenchurch St, London EC.

Any additional information you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

Please forward any new details to:

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